

U.S. DEPARTMENT of ENERGY

ALTERNATIVE FUELS AND VEHICLES INFORMATION RESOURCES



The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), through its Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), leads a multipart effort to advance the use of alternative fuels in cars and trucks. This role stems partly from federal legislation requiring certain parties, including many government agencies, to purchase alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs). The goal of promoting alternative fuels reflects our nation's need to reduce petroleum imports and lessen the effects of air pollution associated with the combustion of gasoline and diesel fuel.

Alternative fuels include natural gas, ethanol, methanol, hydrogen, electricity, biologically produced diesel or "biodiesel" fuel, and liquefied petroleum gas, also commonly called propane. Vehicles that run on these fuels come in all sizes and body styles including passenger cars, minivans, pickup trucks, heavy trucks, transit buses, and utility vehicles. Alternative fuels are available nationwide in a growing network of public and private fueling facilities.

Many businesses, government agencies, and individual motorists choose alternative fuels voluntarily, without mandates. Some see economic advantages, which are often enhanced by tax incentives enacted at the federal, state, and local level. Some users, such as school bus fleet operators, switch to alternative fuels to protect students from exposure to diesel exhaust. Some adopt alternative fuels out of a desire to help the environment or strengthen local or national energy security.

To help you choose and use alternative fuels, EERE offers a variety of public information resources. They are comprehensive, free, and easily accessible on the Web or by phone.





www.ccities.doe.gov



Clean Cities Program

All the information and assistance offered by the

Clean Cities Program come together in this online resource. Clean Cities was created to promote alternative fuels and AFV, and the related fueling infrastructure. In approximately 80 areas across the country,



public and private stakeholders have joined together to form Clean Cities coalitions.

The Clean Cities Web site describes the program in detail, and tells you how to join an existing coalition or start a new one. It provides numerous stories of success with alternative fuels in government fleets and private industry, plus abundant technical information about AFVs and how they work. The site includes "tools" for Clean Cities coordinators, with advice about funding opportunities, effective meetings and presentations, media relations, and more. Updated regularly is a listing of contact information about program leaders, DOE and other government agencies and officials, local coalitions and coordinators, and industry representatives.



www.afdc.doe.gov

Alternative Fuels Data Center (AFDC)

An ever-growing resource of information related to alternative fuels, the AFDC is widely used by government, industry, and private individuals. You can search the online document database by concept, keyword, or title. The Web site includes several pages devoted to popular topics



such as specific fuels, AFVs in general, and fleet management. Regularly updated are a "What's New" section with industry news, and a schedule of industry events. You'll find a comprehensive list of links to industry periodicals and Web sites, and other DOE resources listed in this brochure.

Approximately 3,200 publicly accessible documents are stored in the AFDC. Additionally, its search function locates other alternative-fuel related sites and documents on the Web, even if they don't reside in the AFDC.



1-800-CCITIES or 1-800-224-8437

Clean Cities / AFDC Hotline

To ask specific questions or to learn more about alternative fuels and the Clean Cities Program, you can call or email this free Hotline. Its trained experts respond to thousands of inquiries every year, helping people determine what information best meets their needs. All the fact sheets,



brochures, technical papers, and publications available in the AFDC can be ordered from the Hotline and mailed free of charge. It is a great source of contacts, with the names, addresses, and phone numbers of other professionals who can answer your questions in greater depth.

www.afdc.doe.gov/refueling_mapsite.shtml

Alternative Fuel Station Locator Alternative Fuel Route Mapper

The Station Locator lets you select a fuel type, then find refueling stations within the radius you choose. Using the Route Mapper, you can enter the start and end points of a cross-town or cross-country trip, then locate stations along the way. Along with a map, you'll see the names and phone numbers of all your fueling stops.





www.ccities.doe.gov/vbg

Vehicle Buyer's Guide

For consumers and fleet operators considering the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles, an excellent first stop is the online Vehicle Buyer's Guide. The site offers a step-by-step process in which you choose the vehicle type, manufacturer, and specific fuel. Cost information, incentives, and



refueling station and dealer locations are also provided. Fleet operators can determine whether they're covered by requirements of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (EPAct), and find guidance on complying. Along with passenger cars and light trucks, the Vehicle Buyer's Guide covers heavy duty vehicles including trucks and transit buses. Also covered (in the consumer section) are advanced technology vehicles such as hybrids and neighborhood-electric vehicles.



www.ott.doe.gov/epact

Fleet Information and Regulations

Are you covered by the Energy Policy Act of 1992? Must you comply? EPAct requires many government agencies to purchase alternative fuel vehicles as a specific portion of their overall annual light-duty vehicle acquisitions. Also covered are certain fleets in private industry—specifi-



cally those operated by alternative fuel providers. For more information on complying with AFV fleet acquisition requirements, visit the EPAct Web site.



www.ott.doe.gov

Transportation Technologies

Beyond alternative fuels, DOE's Transportation Technologies Web site provides the broadest look at transportation in the United States. You can download data, forecasts, and publications such as Future U.S. Highway and Energy Use: A Fifty-Year Perspective, and DOE's Transportation



Energy Data Book. Read about emerging technologies such as hydrogen fuel cells, and link to research partners in industry as well as the national laboratories serving the U.S. Department of Energy. For an always-interesting tidbit about transportation, check out the Fact of the Week.



Other Valuable Resources:

You can learn more about alternative fuels, AFVs, and other advanced-technology vehicles at these Web sites, maintained by the U.S. Department of Energy.

Biofuels for Sustainable Transportation www.ott.doe.gov/biofuels

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Network www.eren.doe.gov

Hybrid Electric Vehicle Program www.ott.doe.gov/hev

Fuel Cells for Transportation www.cartech.doe.gov/research/ fuelcells/index.html Cooperative Automotive Research for Advanced Technology (CARAT) Program www.ipd.anl.gov/carat

United States Council for Automotive Research (USCAR) www.uscar.org

Next Generation Natural Gas Vehicle (NGNGV) Program www.ctts.nrel.gov/ngngv

U.S. Department of Energy www.energy.gov

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Prepared by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory

NREL is a U.S. Department of Energy National Laboratory Operated by Midwest Research Institute * Battelle * Bechtel

DOE/GO-102002-1579 April 2002

Printed with a renewable-source ink on paper containing at least 50% wastepaper, including 20% postconsumer waste



Neither the United States government nor any agency thereof, nor any of their employees, makes any warranty, express or implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights. Reference herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the United States government or any agency thereof. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States government or any agency thereof.